

soils of non-calcareous derivation, although some of the glabrous-styled species (as \**T. cinerea*) may grow directly on limestone outcrops. The only exceptions of which I am aware are *T. potosina* and *T. Lindheimeri* which, to judge from notes on various herbarium-specimens, may sometimes occur on calcareous soils.

It seems likely, too, that the isolating mechanisms between some of the species of *Tephrosia* are at least partially ecological. As was noted above, *Tephrosia chrysophylla* usually occurs in drier and more open habitats than those occupied by *T. florida*. Occasionally, however, the two species occur together and I have found intermediate plants, presumably hybrids (see Species 19a) only in such localities. Similarly, intermediates (inconclusively hybrids) were found along a road-bank where *T. spicata* grew at the edge of brush and *T. chrysophylla* on the exposed white sand. Another suggestive but inconclusive example was seen in Emanuel County, Georgia. Here *Tephrosia florida* was abundant in open ground between trees of *Quercus incana* Bartr. and *Q. alba* L., while *Tephrosia hispidula* grew in moister, sedgy ground with pines. In a narrow zone of gradation between these habitats plants morphologically intermediate between these two distinct species occurred. Except at this locality, I have never found *T. florida* and *T. hispidula* in contact with one another.

(To be continued)

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THE WHITE FORM OF *ASTER PUNICEUS*, VAR. *FIRMUS*.—In RHODORA 51: 95. 1949, Prof. Fernald implies that *Aster puniceus* L., forma *albiflorus* R. Hoffm. is the correct name for the albino of *A. puniceus*, var. *firmus* (Nees) T. & G. Unfortunately, however, this name is illegitimate according to Article 30 of the International Rules, which states that two subdivisions of the same species, even if they are of different rank, cannot bear the same subdivisional epithet, unless they are based on the same type.

*A. puniceus*, var. *lucidulus* Gray, forma *albiflorus* R. Hoffm. in Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. 36: 339. 1922 is antedated by the same epithet, based on a different type, published as *A. puniceus*, var. *albiflorus* Farwell in Rep. Mich. Acad. Sci. 17: 171. 1916. This proves to be, as shown by Prof. Fernald, the albino form of typical *A. puniceus* L. He also shows that *A. puniceus*, f. *albi-*

*florus* (Farwell) Shinnars in Am. Midl. Nat. **26**: 414. 1941 is made illegitimate by the prior publication of f. *albiflorus* R. Hoffm. Accordingly, he describes the new form, *A. puniceus* L., forma *candidus* Fernald l. c., of which the two ternary combinations based on Farwell's type become facultative synonyms.

This curious application of the rules, whereby three names, based on two different types, cancel each other out and are made unavailable, makes it necessary to create a name for the albino of *A. puniceus*, var. *firmus* (Nees) T. & G.

ASTER PUNICEUS L., var. FIRMUS (Nees) T. & G., forma **etiamalbus**, nom. nov. *A. puniceus*, var. *lucidulus*, f. *albiflorus* R. Hoffm. in Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. **36**: 339. 1922, non *A. puniceus*, var. *albiflorus* Farwell in Rep. Mich. Acad. Sci. **17**: 171. 1916. —HASKELL VENARD, Atlanta, Georgia.

BASICLADIA IN MAINE.—In November, 1948, a common musk-turtle, *Sternotherus odoratus* (Latreille), was captured in Pushaw Stream in Old Town, Penobscot Co., Maine. This turtle bore a growth of alga on the marginal plates of the carapace and on the dorsal surface of the beak. The alga was identified by Dr. E. C. Ogden of the University of Maine as *Basycladia chelonum* (Collins) Hoffmann and Tilden. The turtle has been turned over to Dr. A. H. Gustafson of Bowdoin College for further study, in the hope that fruiting bodies of the alga may be found, as the literature indicates that such structures are as yet undescribed.

An examination of the literature indicates no previous record of this genus from Maine. In fact, no record was found from any New England state other than Massachusetts. Smith<sup>1</sup> cites *Basycladia* from Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, and Iowa. It does not seem reasonable that these scattered reports are indicative of true distribution and frequency of the alga. *Basycladia* has been found only on turtles, both those which spend almost all their life in the water, such as the musk-turtle, and those which have the "sunning" habit, as do the painted turtles. It is likely that an examination of more turtles will bring to light many new records for this alga.—R. M. CHUTE, Stillwater, Maine.

<sup>1</sup> SMITH, G. M., The Fresh-water Algae of the United States, p. 432 (1933).